

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## New York Entomological Society.

Publishes articles relating to any class of the subkingdom Arthropoda, subject to the acceptance of the Publication Committee. Original communications in this field are solicited.

### EDITORIAL.

WE published in the last number of this JOURNAL an article by Mr. A. C. Weeks, which elaborates the theory that the coloration of the hind wings of the genus *Catocala* serve the purpose of diverting the attention of predaceous enemies from the vital parts of the insect. This view has been previously stated by Professor E. B. Poulton,\* but the theory does not strongly appeal to us for the reason that the colored parts are concealed in repose and could only be seen by an enemy during flight or the short period while the wings are elevated before taking flight. We doubt whether the rapidly moving wings would be seized during flight, and, in the short period before or after flight while the colored wings are unconcealed, they would seem to lie dangerously near the abdomen. In the case of the genus *Thecla*, where the colored spots and tails on the hind wings, being kept in gentle motion during rest, give the false impression of being the head of the butterfly, these parts are well elevated above the abdomen and extend beyond it. In this case the theory discussed by Mr. Weeks seems obviously applicable, but in the case of *Catocala* we incline to the view that the primary use is something else, perhaps as a recognition marking.†

WE print in this number a list of Philippine Hymenoptera by Dr. Ashmead. We cordially indorse the suggestion that American ento-

\* Poulton, "Colours of Animals," p. 206, 1890.

† Wallace, "Darwinism," p. 217, 1891.

mologists should take a more lively interest in Philippine insects. The fauna is interesting and must really be extensive, though as yet imperfectly known. A good preliminary catalogue was published in 1895 by Fr. Casto de Elera, entitled "Catalogo sistematico de toda la fauna de Filipinas, conocida hasta el presente," printed at the press of the College of Saint Thomas in Manila. It is somewhat marred, from our point of view, by the inclusion of the names of sundry exotic insects which happened to be in the collection of the College of St. Thomas. This is explained in the preface; but one gets an exaggerated idea of the number of Philippine insects known, if this matter is not kept in mind. We mention this book particularly, as it is not generally known in America, and will be the starting point of our future lists. The author enumerates the following number of species of Arthropods:

<b>Class I, HEXAPODA.</b>	
Order Hymenoptera	68, Ashmead gives 183.
Order Coleoptera	1,573
Order Siphonaptera	1
Order Diptera	272
Order Lepidoptera	793, Semper gives 1,626.
Order Neuroptera	104
Order Hemiptera	624
Order Orthoptera	287
Order Corrodentia	15
<b>Class II, MYRIAPODA</b>	21
<b>Class III, ARACHNIDA</b>	79
<b>Class IV, CRUSTACEA</b>	176

In the Lepidoptera, the butterflies listed are mainly Philippine species, but a considerable proportion of the moths, 55 out of 174 listed, are exotic species which will never naturally occur in the Philippines. The butterflies follow largely Semper's work,\* but in the moths this was not then published. Semper gives 907 moths as against Casto de Elera's 119, a very gratifying advance.

WITH this number we have adopted the plan of classifying the articles according to the classes and orders of the Arthropods, grouping them under the appropriate headings. Our readers can now tell at a glance whether the number contains anything in their especial fields.

\* Reisen im Archipel der Philippinen von Dr. C. Semper: Die Schmetterlinge der Philippinischen Inseln von Georg Semper. Wiesbaden, 1886-1902.

We avoid, besides, to a large extent questions of priority in the placing of articles. The system adopted is that of Comstock's Manual with the sequence reversed.

It is customary for entomological journals to offer their subscribers the opportunity of having their insects named. We, therefore, call the attention of the readers of the JOURNAL to the excellent facilities of the U. S. National Museum for naming Arthropods in all groups. The usual privilege is reserved of retaining specimens that are desirable for the national collection.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 1903.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History.

President C. F. Groth presided with 13 members in attendance.

The minutes of May 19 were read and approved.

The treasurer, Mr. Joutel, reported the receipt of bills for printing 500 copies of the June number of the JOURNAL.

As more than the required number of JOURNALS had been printed and also owing to the fact that the JOURNAL was mailed at the third-rate classification, the bills called for an amount larger than usual.

The secretary was instructed to correspond with the publication committee and ask for more particulars in reference to the bills.

The librarian, Mr. Schaeffer, reported the receipt of the following exchanges:

Revista do Museum Paulista, Vol. V.

Entomologisk Tidskrift, 1902, Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Wiener Ent. Zeitung, XXII, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Verh. d. k. k. Zool. Bot. Gesellschaft, Vol. LII and LIII, No. 1.

Mittheilungen Schweiz. Ent. Gesellschaft, Vol. X, No. 10.

Proc. Am. Acad. Arts and Sciences, XXXVIII, No. 18.

Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXVI, Nos. 1333 and 1335.

Bulletin U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 52, 1902.

Anales del Museo Nacional de Buenos Aeres, 1902, Tome, I and 2.

Proc. Canadian Institute, July, 1902.

Zeitschrift für Ent. Breslau, 1902, No. 27.

Stettiner Ent. Zeitung, Vol. 64, No. 1.

Annales de la Société Ent. de Belgique, Vol. XLVI, 1902.

Deutsche Ent. Zeitschrift, from 1891-1903; but No. 1 of 1891, entire volume of 1892, and No. 2 of 1895 are missing.

Insect World, Vol. VII, No. 1, 1903.

Mr. Leng proposed Mr. Edward D. Harris, 280 Broadway, as an active member of the Society.